

WORK CONFERENCE AIMS TO PROVIDE MORE JOBS BY PRACTICAL MEASURES

**Will Seek Exact Facts on
Number of Men Un-
employed.**

**HARDING URGES
NEW CONFIDENCE**

**City Employment Bu-
reaus and Public Work
Are Advocated**

**Entire Country
To Be Informed
Of Every Move**

"All America" must co-operate in solving the unemployment problem. President Harding told the unemployment conference yesterday.

"A crystallization of much valuable public thought on this matter would have lasting value in the education of our people," said Secretary of Commerce Hoover.

BY ROBERT J. BENDER.

President Harding has spoken the word and the machinery has been started for one of the most important domestic readjustment efforts of the administration—providing work for the nation's idle and a breath of optimism for the nation's business.

Proceedings of the first session of

The unemployment conference here yesterday bespoke confidence in the outcome and a demand for practicable measures. It was made plain that there must be no drafts upon the public treasury. The 'dole' system, practiced in European countries to relieve the workless, was denounced as "the most vicious" in the world.

First Words Spoken.

The initial words having been spoken and the organization of the conference having been completed with Secretary of Commerce Hoover as chairman, it is now possible to set forth the measures for relief contemplated by the administration

**EFFORTS TO GIVE
EVERY MAN A JOB**

**Declares America Must
Set an Example to
The World.**

President Harding's address at the opening of the unemployment conference was as follows:

and to be effected. If possible, by the group of distinguished Americans here, called for this important duty from all walks of business life. Briefly, here is the program:

1. Hold open hearings, beginning Tuesday, to establish the exact unemployment—as to numbers, classes and locations affected. Labor leaders and business representatives have declared the rate 6,000,000 in the country today. Independent statistics compiled by other business agencies declare there are less than 3,500,000 without work. Reporting of the higher unemployment figures has caused some buying, manufacturing and selling, and has influenced on business all down the line, delegates here report. So it was deemed advisable at the outset

to correct this misapprehension immediately strike a shaft of optimism into the present business depression.

Will Open Bureaus.

2. Employment bureaus are to be recommended for establishment in all leading cities where unemployment is a serious problem. These bureaus will involve the registration by municipalities of all men who desire work and can't find it. Only local residents—not transients—will be registered.

3. State and municipal executives, after this registration is completed and classified, will be urged to co-operate with municipal and state officials to place as many men to work as possible.

“That remark of a distinguished foreigner, that Americans are incapable. If it be true that no citizen is without example to some one among his fellows, which I believe to be everlastingly true, the nations, great and small, are influencing others in all they do.”

Depression Due to War.

You are invited together to consider a condition which is in no wise peculiar to the United States. The economic depression of the world we are feeling is a war inheritance throughout the world. We say humanly stressed in that production which is impelled by national development and competition. It is the industrial call to arms which

contemplated no projects, and seek the co-operation of local industries and others in adding to employment.

Seek Shorter Day.

4. To obtain added employment in industries, manufacturers will be urged to adopt emergency measures such as will shorten the work day a given per cent for those now employed, in order to permit of a corresponding percentage increase in the number of employees. This would entail, perhaps, a reduction of wages, corresponding to the reduced number of those now employed, but it would provide against suffering for thousands who are out of work.

marshaled the family as well as the accustomed bread-winners and saw the spiritual, mental and physical suffering that awaited the scales measuring the might of the republic. From such a test there is inevitable reaction. To such heights there is necessary ascent and the accompanying descent with it involved there is no escape for any of the world from the valleys of depression. Though we suffered less than many of those with whom we were compared, we were no less of those against whom we contended. It was inevitable that we should experience the fever's aftermath, and come to know depression before we could become normal again.

Liquidation, reorganization, re-

These measures are the ones upon which the Government is depending for the most immediate results. All require co-operation among civic and State authorities, merchants, manufacturers and labor. Their execution and the results launched in definite form, will depend altogether upon the spirit with which communities get behind the idea. It is pointed out.

Other Critical Questions.

In addition the speaker will consider how to effect emergency transportation work, increased construction, emergency mining measures and emergency shipping measures.

Behind these emergency measures are broader plans for more

permanent remedies which will be considered during the conference. The conference will concentrate in the field of freight rate adjustments, modification of building trade regulations to encourage home building and adjustment of the conditions of the coal and iron mining industry, which three elements are regarded by authorities here as the basic obstacles in the path of a business revival.

Under "business leaders" said James Couzens, millionaire mayor of Detroit, and one of the conference delegates, "there can be no general relief from the unemployment situation. To achieve that, work can be worked out satisfactorily, next spring will see business and

wage not the glow of abiding health. We mistook elation for restoration, to day we are met in realization. You have been summoned to counsel all America to apply your energies to the relief of a condition which concerns all Americans. Specifically, you are to deal with unemployment, to suggest the way of repairing the arterial circulation which is so very weak."

There is always unemployment. Under most fortunate conditions, I am told, there are 1,500,000 in the United States who are not at work. The figures are astounding only because there are 100,000,000 of us. The percentage is always with us.

But there is excessive unemployment.

industry in a healthy condition." Here is a list of those attending the conference:

Winslow B. Ayer, of Portland, president Eastern and Western Lumber Company, Portland Ore.

Julius H. Barnes, Duluth, chairman institute for public service.

William M. Butler, of Boston, president Butler Mills, New Bedford

Cotton Mills, Hoosac Cotton Mills.

W. S. Carter of Cleveland, president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers.

Elizabeth Christman of Chicago, secretary of the International Glove Workers' Union, secretary-treasurer of the National Women's Trade Union League.

Edgar C. Clark of Washington, D. C. former president Order of Railway Conductors.

John T. Connery of Chicago,

today, and we are concerned, not alone about its diminution, but we are frankly anxious, under the involved conditions, lest it be crowded out with hardships of the winter season soon to be met.

Must Try to Solve Problem.

I do not venture to quote the statistics, whether the maximum figures are accurate or the minimum figures dependable. Owing to the far away from intensive endeavor and the effort to get down to solid foundations coupled with the difficulty of readjusting expenditure—public, corporate and individual—there is no doubt that the problem of unemployment is the most difficult with which we are confronted.

But there are no problems affecting our national life and the welfare of the American people which we cannot and will not solve. If we fail today we will try again tomorrow.

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